



# ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION SYMPOSIUM

March 9-10, 2012 • Lafayette Crowne Plaza • **SHORT COURSE INFORMATION**

The following *optional* Short Course sessions are being offered on **Friday, March 9, 2012** in conjunction with the 2012 conference. Short Course participants must also register for the Environmental Education Symposium and pay conference registration fees, in addition to the nominal Short Course fee.

**Preregistration is required.**

**Space is limited!**

**Participants will be notified via e-mail.**

Questions? Contact Venise Ortego at [vortego@wlf.la.gov](mailto:vortego@wlf.la.gov) or (337) 948-0255.

**Louisiana Coastal Wetlands — An Inside View of the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math that Goes on Behind the Scenes**

**Grade Levels: 5-12**

**8:30 am–4:00 pm**

**Presenters:** Susan Testroet-Bergeron, CWPPRA Education Specialist

Cole Ruckstuhl, Media Specialist

Dinah Maygarden, UNO, Pontchartrain Institute for Environmental Sciences

Gabrielle Boudreaux Bodin, Information Specialist

**\$10; lunch provided; meet at National Wetlands Research Center, 700 Cajundome Blvd., Lafayette**

Visit the U.S. Geological Survey National Wetland Research Center and learn about the "STEM" research that is happening there. Also, learn about what is being done to rehabilitate Louisiana wetlands through the CWPPRA - Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act. Get new lessons on barrier islands and a host of additional resources for your classroom.

**Canoe, Explore... A Watershed Lesson and Tour!**

**Grade Levels: 7–12**

**8:30 am–3:00 pm**

**Presenters:** Margot Addison, Bayou Vermilion District, Outreach Ed

Ron Boustany, NRCS Resource Conservation Specialist

**\$15; lunch provided; meet at Bayou Vermilion District**

Join us as we explore part of our Bayou Vermilion watershed. We will paddle up the Bayou Vermilion and branch off into Bayou Tortue and make our way to Lake Charlo. We will observe the changing topography of the river system; the transition from Lafayette's upland prairie complex to the Mississippi River basin's bottomland hardwood ecosystem. Along the way we will pause to discuss the various geological, hydrological and ecological influences that come into play, as well as the history of the area. We will also discuss the function and value of wetlands and their interaction within the greater ecosystem. Back at the Bayou Vermilion District we will continue our discussions and do activities relevant to the watershed that can be used in the classroom. (*Moderate to light canoeing*)

**Get Your ROOTS On!**

**Grade Levels: K–8**

**9:00 am–3:00 pm**

**Presenters:** Dr. Pam Blanchard, Associate Professor, Science Education Director

LSU Coastal Roots teachers

**\$20; lunch & transportation provided**

Come and join us on a tour of school gardens in the Lafayette area. Teachers from the host gardens and the LSU Coastal Roots Program will share activities and ideas of how you can integrate school gardens into your K-8 curriculum. Enjoy the day outdoors and come get your ROOTS on!

**Nature Lessons in Your Schoolyard**

**Grade Levels: K–12**

**8:30 am–3:30 pm**

**Presenters:** Stacey Scarce, Curator of Natural Sciences, Acadiana Park Nature Station

Kaye Madden, Naturalist

Stephen Saltamachia, Naturalist

**\$10; lunch & transportation provided**

The Acadiana Park Nature Station is hosting a full day of outdoor education for K-12 teachers. We will explore nature journaling and science concepts. You will experience outdoor lessons and journaling activities to better understand the connection that needs to be made with nature and the value of outdoor education. Nature Station staff look forward to sharing their understanding and enthusiasm for learning in nature to help teachers create positive outdoor experiences for their students. Participants will receive a booklet of nature related lessons that correspond to LA state GLE's. We will be outside so dress accordingly.

**THE YEAR OF OUTDOOR TEACHING!**

